DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

JOSEPH E. WAINSCOTT JR., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Indiana Department of Homeland Security Indiana Government Center South 302 West Washington Street Indianapolis, IN 46204 317-232-3980

Governor requests federal public assistance for 15 counties

INDIANAPOLIS (February 20, 2009) – Governor Mitch Daniels today requested that President Barack Obama provide federal public assistance for 15 counties that sustained damage by a severe winter storm that began January 26.

The counties are Clark, Crawford, Dubois, Floyd, Gibson, Harrison, Jackson, Jefferson, Orange, Perry, Spencer, Switzerland, Vanderburgh, Warrick and Washington.

If approved, public assistance means state government and local governments and certain non-profit organizations in these counties would be eligible to apply for federal assistance to pay 75 percent of the approved cost of debris removal, emergency services related to the disaster and repairing or replacing damaged public facilities, such as roads, buildings and electrical cooperatives.

Daniels indicated further damage may be identified and reserved the right to request assistance for additional counties.

The damage is a result of a severe winter storm which deposited heavy amounts of snow and ice coupled with high winds and a resultant warm up that caused flooding.

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Media Contact: John Erickson, Department of Homeland Security, 317/234-4214, jerickson@dhs.in.gov